

digital (primary) remiges (*R.*) has become much accelerated, that of the distal remiges (*N.*) has been arrested *pro temp.*, thus leaving a free finger-tip, sometime functional in the past history of the species.

C. Coverts.

N. Neossoptiles.

Fig. 2.—Left wing of a nestling *Opisthocomus*, showing the arrested development of the distal remiges, leaving a free finger-tip, functional at the present day, enabling the bird to climb before the power of flight is acquired.

Fig. 3.—Right wing of a nestling *Opisthocomus*, older than that represented in fig. 2. Here the finger-tip has almost, if not quite, ceased to be functional; the primaries being now capable of sustaining flight.

C. Coverts.

C.r. Cubital remiges.

P. Primaries.

Fig. 4.—Embryo *Opisthocomus*, showing the feather-papillæ, the “fundaments” of the future definitive feathers.

Fig. 5.—A neossoptile (*N.*) of *Opisthocomus* on the tip of a definitive feather (*D.f.*), natural size.

Fig. 6.—Portions of a radius (*R.*) of fig. 5, highly magnified, showing fila (*f.*).

XXIX.—*Further Notes on Birds from Bugotu, Solomon Islands, with Description of a new Species.* By H. B. TRISTRAM, D.D., LL.D., F.R.S.

I HAVE lately received, through my friend Dr. P. H. Metcalfe, of Norfolk Island, a small additional collection of birds made for me by Dr. Welchman on Bugotu, one of the lesser islands of the Solomon group*. The collection consists of 14 specimens referable to 12 species, some of which are of considerable interest, though many are well known. The native names are attached to the specimens, and these, except in one or two instances, bear little resemblance to the names given in Guadalcanar, which again differ altogether from

* See previous paper, *Ibis*, 1894, p. 28.

those of Shortland Island (see P. Z. S. 1888, p. 187). I subjoin the list:—

1. *NINOX JACQUINOTI* (Hombr.*).

Native name "Duru."

♀ & jr. The mature bird agrees perfectly in all respects with the descriptions of the type, with the exception that a few of the flank-feathers have a very fine hair-like streak down the centre. It cannot possibly be mistaken for any other member of the genus. The young specimen, though it has the back and wings distinctly barred, has not yet lost the down on the head and breast. This species can be at once distinguished from *Ninox granti* by the close and continuous bars on the mantle and whole upper surface, and by the total absence of any trace of bars on the lower parts or on the flanks. I am unable to ascertain whether any other specimens than the type in Paris have as yet been obtained.

2. *ELECTUS PECTORALIS* (P. L. S. Müller). ♀.

Native name "Kilio."

3. *EURYSTOMUS SOLOMONENSIS*, Sharpe.

Native name "Kekero."

4. *MACROPTERYX MYSTACEA* (Less.).

Native name "Kii."

5. *RHIPIDURA TRICOLOR* (Vieill.).

Native name "Riuriugabe."

Two specimens.

6. *ZOSTEROPS METCALFII*, mihi.

Native name "Kuukudu."

7. *GRAUCALUS ELEGANS*, Rams. ♂.

Native name "Usi."

8. *MACROCORAX VEGETUS*, mihi. ♂.

Native name "Aoao."

A second specimen of this giant representative of *M. woodfordi* described by me, 'Ibis,' 1894, p. 30. The bill in this

* Apparently the same as *Athene tæniata*, Jacq. & Puch. I must leave it to Count Salvadori and Dr. Sharpe to settle the question of priority.

specimen is suffused with pink, as noticed by Mr. Grant in some instances in the other species.

9. MINO KREFFTI (Sclat.).

Native name "Kikiloa."

10. CALORNIS MAXIMA, sp. nov.

C. corpore toto nigro: capite et collo purpureo-nitentibus, plumis colli, interscapulii, et pectoris lanceolatis: tergo toto, tectricibus remigum, et caudâ nitore metallico viridi resplendentibus: remigibus pallidè fuscis, nec basin versus nigricantibus, pogonio externo pallidioribus: rectricibus nigerrimis: rostro et pedibus nigris. Long. tot. 12·6 poll., alæ 6·5, caudæ 4·75, rostri a rictu 1·1, tarsi 1·55.

Native name "Cheu."

This is certainly the giant of the group, its dimensions considerably exceeding those of *Aplonis atrifusca* from Samoa. Its bill is proportionately more massive than that of any other species. In its general coloration, especially in the purple gloss of the head and neck and in the black tail, it generally resembles *C. magna*, but the wings are a very much paler brown than in that species, or in the still more diminutive *Sturnoides minor* of Ramsay, in which the tail as well as the wings is brown. It is remarkable that both this giant representative of the Sturnidæ and the giant *Macrocorax vegetus* should as yet have been found only on the little island of Bugotu, while represented in the islands on either side of it by smaller species.

I may here notice an extraordinary oversight on the part of Dr. Sharpe. In *Cat. Birds*, vol. xiii. p. 142, he gives *Calornis minor* (Bp. ex Müll. Mus. Lugd.), the well-known Timor species, as No. 4 of the genus, and immediately afterwards (p. 151) he repeats *Calornis minor* (Ramsay) as No. 10 of the same genus! The error is repeated in the *Systematic Index*, p. x. There is also an error in Dr. Sharpe's reference to Salvadori, "Orn. Pap. iii. p. 500," where we should read "550." But Salvadori retains Müller's name, *Calornis minor*, for the Timor species, assigning the Solomon Island species to his genus *Lamprocorax* with a query. Dr. Sharpe also

states that his *C. minor* is "similar to *C. grandis*, but much smaller." The marked specific difference is that the tail is jet-black in the larger, uniform brown in the smaller species. Of the latter I was the first describer (*Ibis*, 1882, p. 137), but erroneously identified it with *L. fulvipennis* (Hombr. & Jacq.), of which I had not seen the type. Clearly *Calornis minor* (Sharpe No. 2) cannot stand, and I therefore propose for it the name *Calornis dichroa* = *Sturnoides minor*, Rams. = *C. fulvipennis*, Tristr. (nec Jacq. & Puch.).

11. NYCTICORAX MANDIBULARIS, Grant.

Native name "Kopi."

This specimen agrees with the type in wanting the white feathers of the crest, though otherwise fully adult.

12. TRINGOIDES HYPOLEUCUS (L.).

Native name "Churi."

XXX.—*Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.*

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No. XXV. (March 30th, 1895.)

THE twenty-fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of March, 1895.

Chairman: HOWARD SAUNDERS.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, ERNST HARTERT, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), G. E. SHELLEY, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors: C. E. FAGAN, FREDERICK GILLETT, C. B. RICKETT.

The CHAIRMAN read extracts of letters received from Mr. P. L. SCLATER, relative to birds observed on his excursion to Egypt. It was remarked that all the Gulls seen on the passage out and the Egyptian Kites on the Nile alike carried their feet straight out under the base of the tail.